## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

10

- 1. A disposable wearing article having a front waist region, a rear waist region and a crotch region extending between these two waist regions, each having an inner surface facing a wearer's body and an outer surface facing away from said wearer's body, and said crotch region being formed on said inner surface with a protrusion lying in a transversely middle zone of said crotch region and at least partially surrounding at least one of an anus and a urethral of a wearer, wherein said protrusion comprises a flexible and elastic foamed plastic material.
- The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein said
  protrusion comprises a block of said foamed plastic material.
  - 3. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein said protrusion has a top facing said wearer's body and a bottom facing away from said wearer's body and comprises a cover sheet defining an outer surface of said protrusion and a filler with which an inner space defined by said cover sheet is filled, said filler comprises a plurality of chips of said flexible and elastic foamed plastic material.

4. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein said foamed plastic material is polyurethane foam having a cell population in a range of 30 to 150/25 mm, a density in a range of 20 to  $120 \text{ kg/m}^3$  and an impact resilience in a range of 5 to 30%.

5

10

15

- 5. The wearing article according to Claim 2, wherein said block of said foamed plastic material is bonded to an upper surface of a liquid-pervious sheet covering an absorbent body.
- protrusion is formed in said crotch region and presents a substantially annular planar shape contoured by a front end segment located aside toward said front waist region, a rear end segment located aside toward said rear waist region and transversely opposite lateral segments extending between said front and rear end segments and wherein a height of said protrusion gradually increases toward at least one of said front and rear end segments and maximizes at an apex on a longitudinal center line of said wearing article.
  - 7. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein said protrusion is formed in said crotch region and presents a

U-shape contoured by a pair of lateral segments extending substantially parallel to a longitudinal center line of said wearing article and a curved end segment located aside to one of said front and rear waist regions and connecting said lateral segments to each other.

8. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein said protrusion is formed in said crotch region so as to be located aside toward said rear waist region.

10

15

20

- 9. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein a pair of said protrusions are formed in said crotch region so as to be located aside toward said front waist region and said rear waist region, respectively, and said protrusions are aligned with each other in a longitudinal direction of said crotch region.
- 10. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein said protrusion extends over said crotch region further into both said front waist region and said rear waist region.
- 11. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein a portion of said crotch region surrounded by said protrusion

forms a pocket bulging out from an inner side toward an outer side of said diaper.

- 12. The wearing article according to Claim 1, wherein said apex of said protrusion describes a circular arc being convex upward as viewed in a cross-section of said protrusion.
  - 13. The wearing article according to Claim 3, wherein said chips make up 100 to 60 wt% of said filler.

14. The wearing article according to Claim 3, wherein each of said chips has a maximum diameter in a range of 1 to 20 mm.

- 15. The wearing article according to Claim 3, wherein thermoplastic synthetic fibers make up 0 to 40 wt% of said filler.
- 16. The wearing article according to Claim 3, wherein said maximum diameter of said chips progressively increases from said apex toward said bottom of said protrusion.
  - 17. The wearing article according to Claim 3, wherein a density of said chips progressively increases from said apex

toward said bottom of said protrusion.

18. The wearing article according to Claim 3, wherein a layer of said thermoplastic synthetic fiber underlies said chips in a vicinity of said bottom and said layer of thermoplastic synthetic fiber has a bending stiffness in a range of 0.98 to 5.0 N/25.4 mm.